

Three Vintage Superman Comics.

The iconic “Man of Steel” has been a fixture in American life since his introduction in 1938. Featured in comics, television, and movies, Superman has come to embody the superhero while remaining an enduring symbol of American values. Michaan’s Auctions is proud to offer **Three Vintage Superman Comics** (\$8/1,200) for sale in our May Gallery Auction, held on Friday, May 17th.

Superman is a superhero from DC Comics who first appeared in Action Comics #1 after being created by writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster. Superman is both the archetypal and original superhero, fighting evil under a codename while wearing an elaborate costume, and was America’s best-selling

superhero character until the 1980s.

While the original comics featured a much more aggressive character, by the end of the 1940s Superman was recast with a characteristic softness and humanitarianism that made him more popular with children. He works within the law, never killing his enemies, and



promotes an ethical code of justice, morality, and general righteousness. When combined with his alter-ego, the hardworking journalist Clark Kent, the Superman character embodied the most prized characteristics of WWII and post-war America.

This lot includes three vintage Superman comics, including No. 8, published January 10, 1941, No. 11, published June 30, 1941, and Action Comics No. 56 published January 10, 1943. The cover of No. 8 features Superman diving to from flight as mobsters fire Tommy guns and flames begin to overtake an industrial landscape dominated by a large tank labeled “Danger, Gasoline.” The cover of No. 11 features Superman standing triumphant against a blank yellow background, his arms and legs outstretched as he breaks the chains that bound him. Finally, the cover of No. 56

depicts Superman suspended in midair, pushing off the capstone of the Great Pyramid of Giza to strike down one of two red missiles flying towards him, while the Great Sphinx looks on in the background. Each of the back covers features an advertisement, two for Daisy Air Rifles and the third for a book called “Wonders of Science, Simplified,” which includes a free telescope with its purchase.

No. 8 includes “The Giants of Professor Zee,” “The Fifth Column,” “The Carnival Crooks,” and “Parrone and the Drug Gang,” an excellent compilation featuring spy thrillers, organized crime, and mad scientists. No. 11, from the third year of Superman’s publication, features four stories including “Zimba’s Gold Badge Terrorists,” in which Superman devises a plan to save Metropolis from the bombing campaign of the terrorist Gold

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Bad Organization, and “The Corinthville Caper,” where Louis and Clark Kent uncover a sinister plot after being sent to report on public sightings of giant animals near a scientific laboratory. Action Comics No. 56 features “Design for Doom,” a story revolving around Superman’s efforts to prevent strange disasters from striking important American and world monuments. Also included in this issue are stories featuring the superheroes Vigilante, Three Aces, Americommando, Congo Bill, and Zatara.

Three Vintage Superman Comics (\$8/1,200) will be offered in Michaan’s Auctions May Gallery Auction on Friday, May 17th features excellent furniture, lighting, and decorative pieces from the Furniture & Decorations Department, in addition to important

works from notable artists in the Asian Art Department, and a number of fine pieces from the Jewelry departments. The auction is led by the Furniture & Decorations Department, which will be offering a salon set, chandeliers, and tables in prominent French and Italian styles, while the Asian Art Department offers works of calligraphy and painting by important Chinese artists. Also included in the sale are platinum, diamond, and gold items, including works by Eric De Kolb, presented by the Jewelry Department.

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